



2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 885

February 23, 2004 - Introduced by Representatives VRUWINK, GRONEMUS and STASKUNAS, by request of Wood County Planning and Zoning Committee. Referred to Committee on Urban and Local Affairs.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 145.20 (4); and **to create** 145.20 (2m) of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** treating certain local government fees relating to private sewage systems
3 as special charges.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

With certain exceptions, current law requires county governments to regulate private sewage systems (in Milwaukee County, these regulatory duties must be performed by the city, village, or town where the private sewage system is located). Current law allows a city, village, town, or county that is responsible for the regulation of private sewage systems (regulator) to assess the owner of a private sewage system for costs related to the pumping of a septic or holding tank. Any such assessment that remains unpaid becomes a lien on the applicable property and is placed on the tax roll as a delinquent tax.

This bill permits a regulator to adopt ordinances for the monitoring and maintenance of private sewage systems. The bill allows the regulator to impose a fee, as a special charge, against the owner of a private sewage system for costs related to any services provided by the regulator under the ordinances. The bill also allows the regulator to impose a special charge for costs related to the pumping of a septic or holding tank that is part of that private sewage system. Like other special charges and special assessments, those imposed under this bill become a lien on the property against which they are imposed and are placed on the tax rolls if they remain unpaid.

